

This summer's tour will consist of twenty-five concerts performed in 42 days, including tonight's engagement at the Chicago Theater as well as two concerts sponsored by the International Music Foundation and a sold out performance at the North Shore Senior Center in Northfield.

Mark Damisch is an accomplished and talented musician as well as a thoughtful and respected leader in his community. I commend him on bringing his talents beyond our Chicagoland borders and working with others throughout the world in promoting his love of music. I look forward to continued work with my friend Mark Damisch, and express our community's best wishes for a successful summer of music.

#### TRIBUTE TO RAY MCKENNA

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2002*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ray McKenna of East Hartford, Connecticut. There is truly only one name that can be associated with sports in my hometown of East Hartford: Ray McKenna. For kids like myself, growing up in Mayberry Village, Ray was a person to look up to. He is a legendary figure and it only proper that he be recognized for his achievements and his positive influence on our community.

I am also submitting for the RECORD a radio commentary by Scott Gray of WTIC 1080 AM in Hartford, who captured the essence of Ray McKenna and his importance to East Hartford.

[From WTIC AM News Talk 1080, May 16, 2002]

#### COMMENTARY FOR TODAY

(By Scott Gray)

University of New Mexico women's basketball coach Don Flanagan wrapped up his acceptance speech on being inducted into the East Hartford Explorers Tap-Off Club Hall of Fame at the Marco Polo restaurant last night with a simple thank you. Flanagan, who knows something about winning, felt it was important to thank another big winner from East Hartford, the man responsible for the annual fete, Ray McKenna. But he wasn't thanking Ray for putting on the dinner or for his induction into the hall of fame, he was thanking him for giving a kid from the Mayberry Village section of East Hartford, which has produced a list of national and international sports luminaries, inspiration, inspiration, and a chance to see such heroes as Bill Russell, Bob Cousy and Tommy Heinsohn play basketball in an intimate setting in his hometown. I did mention Flanagan knows about winning. In sixteen seasons as a high school coach at Eldorado High in Albuquerque he had a record of four hundred one wins and thirteen losses. In seven seasons at New Mexico he's turned the program into a big winner, with a 144-72 record and games played in front of average crowds approaching nine thousand, fifth highest aver-

age in the nation. But on the second Wednesday of every May the biggest winner in East Hartford is named Ray McKenna. He talks about the committee that puts the annual dinner together. I've never seen one. The committee is named Ray McKenna, the guy who coached the East Hartford Explorers to more than eleven hundred wins and less than two hundred fifty losses, and thirteen New England Basketball Association titles. And every year they celebrate the team, they celebrate the town, they celebrate East Hartford sports. Every year they fill the banquet room at the Marco Polo, they come for Ray McKenna. Mayor Tim Larson beams about the new UConn football stadium going up in his town, and the innovations that will be part of it. Congressman John Larson, if he can't be there in person, reads the names of the inductees, the Explorers and, as he says, the legendary Ray McKenna into the Congressional Record. Dave Cowens and Larry Costello and John Calipari and Jim Calhoun and Geno Auriemma have all come to be part of the celebration of Ray McKenna. Dom Pemo, Tom Penders, George Blaney and Nick Macarchuk have all come. Bill Detrick and Howie Dickenman, the legends of Central Connecticut, rarely miss it. They come to celebrate a glorious past and to honor it's heroes. They come to honor the new stars and bright young citizens of East Hartford High School basketball and those kids from neighborhoods like Mayberry Village who go on to greater glory. They come, like Don Flanagan, who broke away from a busy schedule, to say thanks to Ray McKenna. There's a baseball park in the town named for the humble former East Hartford mailman, who utters his classic expletive, "pretzels", anytime someone suggests he's more special than he believes himself to be. However Ray McKenna may downplay his own accomplishments, accomplishments that have enriched so many lives, this I know to be true. When you say Ray McKenna in East Hartford, magic happens. With a comment from the sports world, I'm Scott Gray.

#### CONGRATULATING NATIONAL JEWISH MEDICAL AND RESEARCH CENTER ON ITS U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT RANKING

### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2002*

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate National Jewish Medical and Research Center on being named "U.S. News and World Report's" best respiratory hospital in the nation for the fifth consecutive year in its annual survey of "America's Best Hospitals."

National Jewish was selected by board-certified pulmonologists, as well as by the numbers—mortality rates, ratio of registered nurses to beds, technology, and other factors culled from the annual survey of hospitals by the American Hospital Association. In short, this is an honor bestowed upon National Jewish by its peers.

National Jewish is located in the heart of my congressional district of Denver, Colorado.

Founded in 1899, this nonprofit and non-sectarian institution is dedicated to enhancing prevention, treatment and cures through research, and to developing and providing innovative clinical programs for treating patients regardless of age, religion, race or ability to pay.

I am pleased and proud that the only medical and research center in the United States devoted entirely to respiratory, allergic and immune system diseases is a stellar institution and is in my congressional district.

#### HOLY CATHEDRAL MINISTERS CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

### HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2002*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 9th, 2002 members of the Holy Cathedral Church of God in Christ (COGIC) congregation and the Milwaukee community will join together to celebrate Pastor and Lady C. H. McClelland's 20 years of ministry and community service.

Dr. Charles H. McClelland was appointed pastor of Holy Cathedral in September 1982. In July 1989, with his wife Prentiss and a congregation of less than 300 members, Pastor McClelland led his flock from the former Eagle Eye COGIC congregation into its present location on North 40th Street in Milwaukee. Since then membership has continued to thrive and now numbers over 1,200 strong.

The mission of Holy Cathedral is to "reap the harvest of souls by preaching of the gospel as well as the provision of an array of services that are Christ centered through the Word of Hope Ministries." The Word of Hope Ministries, founded by Pastor McClelland, includes a Family Resource Center, Health and Social Service programs, an Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse (ATODA) Support Group, Job Placement and Training, and a training lab in the Family Technology Center.

The wide range of ministries offered through Word of Hope, directly address the needs of the surrounding community. The Men's Ministry focuses on spiritual development for all men, with special focus on the challenges facing young black males in the city of Milwaukee. There is also a Women's Ministry, designed to address the physical, moral and spiritual development of lay women. Members of the congregation also reach out to prison inmates, nursing home residents and poor through the Urban Ministry.

So it is with great pride that I congratulate Dr. and Lady C.H. McClelland on a lifetime of service to God, and on 20 years of service, not only to the congregation of Holy Cathedral Church of God in Christ, but also to the surrounding Milwaukee community.